



News

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NEWS ADVISORY

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Teen's Film Explores Methamphetamine's Devastating Impact on Utah Moms

What does a teenager do when she learns her stepmom is addicted to methamphetamine? Alex Mack got together with her friend Diana Montero, learned as much as she could from the experts and produced a film.

"Mother Superior," which looks at the devastating effect meth addiction has on Utah women, will be screened May 17 at 7 p.m. at the Salt Lake City Library Auditorium, 210 E. 400 South, Salt Lake City. A panel of experts will answer questions afterwards.

"Mother Superior" explores the lives of mothers addicted to meth. The 25-minute film brings light to a side of motherhood that most Utahns don't see even if it is right under their noses.

Salt Lake City is third in the nation for meth use among women; 37 percent of Utah public treatment admission last year were moms addicted to meth; and meth is the drug of choice for 46 percent of female addicts in their child-bearing years, according to Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health.

Ms. Mack, a West High School senior, will participate on the panel. Others include:

- Dr. Glen R. Hanson, Pharmacology and Toxicology Professor, University of Utah
- Theresa A. Martinez, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Associate Sociology Professor, University of Utah
- Jeff Smart, Salt Lake County Substance Abuse Services prevention services coordinator
- Kristin Urry, Utah Division of Child and Family Services child welfare juvenile justice liaison.

Utah Department of Human Services and Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health are sponsoring the screening. Spy Hop Productions worked with Ms. Mack on the film. Film trailers may be viewed at:

http://www.spyhop.org/media/movies/mother_superior.mov

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